IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system using a data format, comprising:

~~at least one of a transmitter to transmit and~~ a receiver to receive a transmitted plurality of time slot based data frames, wherein less than all, but more than one, of said plurality of time slot based data frames, as transmitted, including a sync word ~~at a beginning of said plurality of time slot based data frames~~;

a monitor to monitor clock drift; and

an adjustor to adjust a clock signal if said clock drift is greater than a predetermined value;

wherein at least two adjacent ones of said plurality of time slot based data frames, as transmitted, do not include a sync word.

2. (previously presented) The system using a data format according to claim 1, wherein:

said time slot based data frames are TDMA data frames.

3. (previously presented) The system using a data format according to claim 1, wherein:

said sync word is included at a beginning of said less than all of said transmitted plurality of time slot based data frames.

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The system using a data format according to claim 1, wherein:

said at least two adjacent ones of said plurality of time slot based data frames include data payload in a position containing said sync word in said less than all of said transmitted plurality of time slot based data frames.

6. (previously presented) Apparatus for receiving a time slot based data burst, comprising:

a receiver to receive a time slot based burst containing a plurality of frames, less than all, but more than one, of said frames including a sync word;

a master clock;

a data clock transition position determiner to determine a position of an active edge of said master clock with respect to received data;

wherein said data clock transition position determiner adjusts a frequency of said master clock to maintain a centering of said active edge of said master clock within a respective portion of said received data.

7. (original) The apparatus for receiving a time slot based data burst according to claim 6, wherein:

said time slot based burst is a TDMA burst.

8. (previously presented) A method of receiving time slot based burst data, comprising:

receiving a time slot based burst containing a plurality of frames;

decoding a sync word in less than all frames of said time slot based burst; and

controlling a centering of an active edge of a master clock with respect to at least one symbol in at least one of said plurality of frames.

9. (original) The method of receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 8, wherein:

said at least one symbol is in a last one of said plurality of frames in said time slot based burst.

10. (original) The method of receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 8, wherein:

said at least one symbol is a last symbol in a last one of said plurality of frames in said time slot based burst.

11. (original) Apparatus for receiving time slot based burst data, comprising:

means for receiving a time slot based burst containing plurality of frames;

means for decoding a sync word in less than all frames of said time slot based burst; and

means for controlling a centering of an active edge of a master clock with respect to at least one symbol in at least one of said plurality of frames.

12. (original) The apparatus for receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 11, wherein:

said at least one symbol is in a last one of said plurality of frames in said time slot based burst.

13. (original) The apparatus for receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 11, wherein:

said at least one symbol is a last symbol in a last one of said plurality of frames in said time slot based burst.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The method of receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 8, wherein:

said sync word is in less than all, but more than one, frames of said time slot based burst.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus for receiving time slot based burst data according to claim 11, wherein:

said sync word is in less than all, but more than one, frames of said time slot based burst.